## Embassy of the United States of America Lusaka, Zambia Security Message for U.S. Citizens August 15, 2013

## Thefts on Kafue Road, Lusaka

The U.S. Embassy has confirmed reports that motorists have been the victims of theft while traveling through areas of road construction on Kafue Road in Lusaka. In several incidents, thieves used machetes to cut items off vehicle roof racks or have stolen items out of truck beds while the victims' vehicles were in the construction area.

Although police are aware of this problem and are taking steps to increase patrols, U.S. citizens are advised to drive with caution in this area. Motorists should use discretion in how their vehicle is loaded and avoid providing thieves with a tempting target. Police report the majority of incidents occur after dark but add daytime thefts have occurred as well. Poor signage and inadequate lighting in the construction zones add to the risk.

The U.S. Embassy reminds U.S. citizens that the U.S. Department of State rates Zambia "high" for crime. This means crime can be indiscriminate, at times violent, and can occur in all parts of Zambia, at any time. U.S. citizens should review their personal security plan, remain aware of their surroundings, and monitor local news for events and updates.

If you are the victim of a crime in Zambia, you should contact the local police and the U.S. Embassy. Although the investigation and prosecution of a crime are

solely the responsibility of local authorities, consular officers can help you understand the local criminal justice process and locate an attorney, if needed. In Zambia, the U.S. Embassy can be reached by calling 0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805.

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka is located on Ibex Hill Road, Lusaka. The Consular Section can be contacted at 0211-357-000 or via email at <a href="mailto:ACSLusaka@state.gov">ACSLusaka@state.gov</a>. For assistance after hours or in an emergency, you can contact us at 0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805.

You can stay in touch and get updates by checking the <u>U.S. Embassy in Zambia</u> website. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of <u>Consular Affairs website</u>, where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific Information for Zambia</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter and Facebook</u>, and download our free Smart Traveler App from <u>iTunes</u> or the <u>Google Play</u> store to have travel information at your fingertips. If you do not have Internet access, you can obtain current information about safety and security by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or, for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. Respondents are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Zambia, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include

your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.